

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 6/9/2 Hull Fouling **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
Maritime Focal Points

DATE: 12 April 2019

CIRCULAR: 19/31

SUBJECT: **Invitation to the Regional Workshops on the International Convention for the Control And Management Of Ships' Ballast Water And Sediments, The International Convention On The Control Of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems On Ships and The Guidelines For The Control And Management of Ships' Biofouling To Minimize the Transfer of Invasive Aquatic Species, 3-7 June 2019, Suva Fiji**

Dear Members,

On behalf of International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), I write to invite your governments participation in the *Regional Workshops On The International Convention For The Control And Management Of Ships' Ballast Water And Sediments, The International Convention On The Control Of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems On Ships And The Guidelines For The Control And Management Of Ships' Biofouling To Minimize The Transfer Of Invasive Aquatic Species* from 3-7 June 2019, to be held in Suva, Fiji. The workshop is kindly hosted by the Government of Fiji. A draft programme for the workshop is attached at, Annex 1.

The objectives for the Workshops are to:

- familiarize participants with the Ballast Water Management Convention, the AFS Convention, as well as the Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling;
- provide the necessary knowledge and information to encourage countries to accede and implement Ballast Water Management Convention and the AFS Convention; and
- to present and discuss the workplan for the GloFouling Project for the SPREP region.

The Workshop is aimed at government administrators, preferable at a senior level with responsibility for technical and policy-making decisions relating to the prevention and control of pollution arising from shipping, particularly in the areas of the Ballast Water Management Convention, the Anti-Fouling Systems Convention, and the Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling.

It is envisaged that one (1) participant will be sponsored to attend this Workshop from the following countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Niue, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Unfortunately the IMO funding does not extend to the territories of American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Tokelau, and Wallis and Futuna as well as non-IMO member countries therefore participation in this training will be at your own cost for these nationals.

Nominating authorities are kindly requested to take into account the objectives of the workshops and ensure that the professional background and responsibilities of the nominated participants are in line with the workshop's aim and target audience.

It would be appreciated if you could complete the attached registration form (Annex 2) at your earliest convenience but no later than **Friday 3rd May 2019**.

For further information please contact Mr Anthony Talouli, Waste Management and Pollution Control Division on anthonyt@sprep.org

I look forward to receiving your early response and in closing, thank you for your consideration of this valuable training workshop.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kosi Latu', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kosi Latu

Director General